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CROPS AND MARKETS



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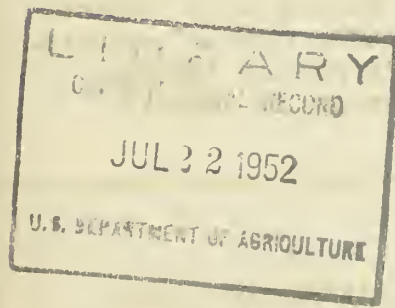
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C

L A T E N E W S

The Government of Egypt on June 18 gave final approval to the issuance of 2 Government loans to finance the purchase of the remainder of the 1951-52 cotton crop in July and August under the price support program. There will be one loan of LE 15 million (approximately U.S. \$41.75 million) for 3 years at 3.5 percent interest. Local banks and other institutions were reported to have made commitments to take all but LE 5 million of the total before the end of June. The loans may be redeemed after 2 years.

A new Pakistani trade policy was announced June 28. It is designed to strengthen the exchange position of the country by moving jute and cotton out of Pakistan and at the same time reduce imports into Pakistan. Provisions of the policy as it affects the jute trade follow:

1. The price for "jat bottoms" is reduced from the equivalent of 8.4 cents per pound to 6.2 cents, with other grade reduced proportionately.
2. The export duty on kutchha baled jute is reduced from the equivalent of 2.6 to 1.4 cents per pound, and to 1.1 cents on pucca baled jute.
3. Exports of jute must be licensed to all countries except those in the dollar area and Argentina.
4. A licensing fee of about 0.9 cents per pound must be paid on exports of jute to India.

The Pakistan Government announced on June 28 that the Cotton Board will sell Government-owned cotton at 10 percent less than the price at which it was purchased under the price support program in effect since March 1, 1952. The Government now owns about 285,000 bales (500 pounds gross) of the estimated 430,000 bales still available for export. The lifting of minimum price restrictions on cotton also was announced. The import duty on cotton textiles was increased from 30 percent to 60 percent ad valorem and the required deposits on letters of credit were raised to 75 percent for "open general licenses" and 50 percent for "specific license" exports. The above actions were designed to protect Pakistan's foreign exchange position through quiet stimulation of exports and curbing of imports.

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to inform producers, processors, distributors and consumers of farm products of current developments abroad in the crop and livestock industries, foreign trends in prices and consumption of farm products, and world agricultural trade. Circulation of this periodical is free to those persons in the U. S. needing the information it contains in farming, business and professional operations. Issued by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

1951 WORLD EXPORTS OF BANANAS SHOW SLIGHT DECLINE

Exports of bananas from the world's principal exporting areas totaled 97.2 million count bunches (50 pounds) in 1951 compared with 98.1 million in 1950 and the 5-year (1935-39) average of 111.6 million bunches. World imports into principal importing areas totaled 97.9 million bunches in 1951 compared with 97.2 million in 1950 and the prewar average of 111.5 million.

World production of bananas has not fully recovered from the relatively low levels reached during World War II years, due in part to difficulties in rehabilitating the industry in certain important export areas because of political and labor difficulties, and in part to the ravages of diseases and weather disturbances. A severe storm caused heavy losses in Guatemala and some other areas. In addition Sika-toka and Panama diseases have reduced production in several areas where control methods have not been instituted.

The Western Hemisphere supplied 78.8 million bunches of the world's banana exports in 1951 or 81 percent compared with 82.0 million in 1950 and the prewar average of 92.0 million. Africa, in the Eastern Hemisphere, supplied most of the remainder in 1951 with 17.9 million stems or 18 percent. In the prewar period Africa exported an average of 12.5 million bunches or 11 percent of the world total. It is interesting to note that the world output and total exports in 1951 declined slightly while the demand increased. The world probably would absorb at reasonably good prices, a substantially larger volume of bananas if more high quality fruit could be produced.

From Central America and the Caribbean area exports totaled 54.9 million bunches in 1951 compared with 61.0 million in 1950 and the prewar average of 73.1 million. Among this group, there have been some outstanding shifts since prewar. Costa Rica, an average banana exporter during 1935-39, is now the largest exporter of that commodity in the world. Substantial increases of 1951 exports over prewar 1935-39 are noted also for Honduras, the Dominican Republic, Guadeloupe and Martinique, while most of the other areas show decreases, particularly British Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Cuba and Jamaica where quality control has not been effective.

Banana exports from South America totaled 23.9 million bunches in 1951 compared with 21.0 million in 1950 and an average of 18.9 million for the prewar period 1935-39. Once again Ecuador increased exports substantially over the previous year, Brazil halted a downward trend in exports by shipping the largest number of bananas since prewar, while Colombia decreased its exports in 1951 compared with 1950.

There has been little recovery in banana exports from Asia since the close of the war although information for Formosa, the principal supplier of this area, is lacking.

BANANAS: International trade averages 1935-39 and 1945-49
annual 1948-51

Continent and country	Average		1948		1949		1950		1951 1/2	
	1935-39	1945-49	1948	1949	1950	1951 1/2	1948	1949	1950	1951 1/2
	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches
Exports from specified countries										
<u>NORTH AMERICA</u>										
British Honduras	658	113	114	58	28	-				
Costa Rica	4,569	10,278	15,062	15,995	14,973	15,254				
Guatemala	8,405	10,429	12,056	6,900	6,897	5,209				
Honduras	11,723	14,242	15,326	13,349	13,140	13,228				
Mexico	13,103	4,602	4,527	4,302	5,511	2,807				
Nicaragua	1,982	329	475	539	429	500				
Panama, Republic of	8,173	7,135	9,055	9,274	8,014	6,832				
Panama, Canal Zone	1,606	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/				
Cuba	5,358	1,384	1,251	652	265	200				
Dominica	58	20	10	77	-	-				
Dominican Republic	291	1,254	1,390	1,758	1,898	1,921				
Grenada	78	4	9	8	-	-				
Guadeloupe	1,810	1,410	2,158	2,190	2,795	3,203				
Haiti	704	2,684	1,697	1,162	1,068	668				
Jamaica	13,042	2,666	3,048	3,383	2,886	1,848				
Martinique	1,336	957	1,248	1,953	3,140	3,188				
St. Lucia	64	6/	-	-	-	-				
St. Vincent	28	6/	-	-	-	-				
Trinidad and Tobago	73	6/	-	-	-	-				
Total	73,061	57,507	67,426	61,600	61,044	54,908				

ASIA										
Syria and Lebanon	8	7	4	:	:	2	:	5	:	-
Japan <u>J</u>	201	-	-	:	:	21	:	20	:	-
Formosa <u>g</u>	5,570	-	-	:	:	-	:	-	:	-
Formosa	645	-	-	:	:	-	:	-	:	-
Indonesia	138	-	-	:	:	-	:	-	:	-
Total	6,562	7	4	:	:	23	:	25	:	-
SOUTH AMERICA										
Brazil	9,366	5,456	7,180	:	:	6,963	:	6,071	:	7,611
Colombia	7,475	3,028	3,697	:	:	5,570	:	6,229	:	6,130
Ecuador	1,920	3,054	4,206	:	:	5,915	:	8,544	:	9,975
Paraguay	1	8	<u>6</u>	:	:	<u>6</u>	:	-	:	-
Surinam	3	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	:	:	-	:	-	:	-
Venezuela	125	212	241	:	:	219	:	178	:	200
Total	18,890	11,758	15,324	:	:	18,667	:	21,022	:	23,916
AFRICA										
Belgian Congo	73	111	139	:	:	204	:	496	:	500
Canary Islands	5,319	6,305	7,316	:	:	6,732	:	6,376	:	8,050
Egypt	12	9	18	:	:	6	:	6	:	6
Eritrea	983	142	60	:	:	342	:	422	:	400
French Cameroons	907	788	1,325	:	:	1,484	:	2,111	:	2,161
French Guinea	1,882	1,069	1,810	:	:	1,885	:	2,014	:	2,372
Ivory Coast	517	357	683	:	:	805	:	1,013	:	708
Gold Coast	56	<u>6</u>	1	:	:	<u>6</u>	:	-	:	-
Mozambique	389	733	998	:	:	379	:	329	:	323
Nigeria and Cameroons	2,337	1,196	1,528	:	:	3,480	:	2,702	:	3,404
Sao Tome and Principe	7	18	-	:	:	-	:	-	:	-
Total	12,482	10,728	13,878	:	:	15,317	:	15,469	:	17,924

Continued - - -

BANANAS: International trade, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49
annual 1948-51

5

Continent and country	Average		1948	1949	1950	1951 1/
	1935-39	1945-49				
	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches
OCEANIA						
Fiji	248	236	269	340	261	300
Hawaiian Islands 2/	103	0	0	0	0	0
Tonga Islands	32	52	75	75	80	80
Western Samoa	272	169	159	139	155	100
Total	655	457	503	554	496	480
World total	111,650	80,457	97,135	96,161	98,056	97,228
			Imports into specified countries 10/			
NORTH AMERICA						
Canada	2,250	3,809	3,709	3,305	3,507	3,578
United States 11/	61,327	53,506	63,724	60,882	58,187	56,588
Total	63,577	57,315	67,433	64,187	61,694	60,166
EUROPE						
Belgium	914	1,029	1,287	1,624	1,707	1,837
Denmark	190	3	6/	6/	6/	6/
Ireland (Eire)	254	135	247	218	260	224
Finland	126	3	1	15	11	-
France	7,416	3,838	6,297	8,017	8,843	10,549
Germany	5,512	313	6/	626	3,921	3,363
Italy	954	87	35	305	422	1,290
Netherlands	1,273	67	47	177	949	960
Norway	332	75	0	0	78	101
Spain	2,084	3,962	5,056	5,129	4,261	2,488
Sweden	471	427	284	236	1,326	1,514
Switzerland	282	347	411	513	549	653
United Kingdom	13,186	4,562	6,670	6,850	6,186	7,332
Total	32,994	14,848	20,335	23,710	28,513	30,311

ASIA									
Iraq	15	1	-	200	-	300	-	-	-
Palestine	0	179	-	200	200	300	-	-	-
Japan 12/	5,570	-	-	-	21	20	-	-	-
Korea 8/	201	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	5,786	180	-	200	221	320	-	-	-
SOUTH AMERICA									
Argentina	6,862	4,417	-	6,391	5,877	3,610	-	5,315	-
Chile	653	915	-	1,031	972	620	-	635	-
Uruguay	445	603	-	842	365	1,694	-	735	-
Total	7,960	5,935	-	8,264	7,214	5,924	-	6,685	-
AFRICA									
Algeria	200	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
French Morocco	71	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South West Africa	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spanish Morocco	24	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tunisia	95	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Union of South Africa	198	419	-	250	250	219	-	215	-
Southern Rhodesia	19	85	-	90	100	118	-	110	-
Total	611	545	-	346	350	337	-	325	-
OCEANIA									
Australia	72	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Zealand	524	463	-	549	440	440	-	450	-
Total	596	463	-	549	440	440	-	450	-
World total	111,524	79,286	-	97,127	96,122	97,228	-	97,937	-

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Crop years Aug. 1 - July 31, 1933-34 through 1936-37; Aug. 1 - June 30, 1937-38; July 1 - June 30, 1939. 3/ Includes Panama, Canal Zone. 4/ Included in Republic of Panama. 5/ Year beginning Oct. 1. 6/ Less than 500 bunches. 7/ Trade with Korea. 8/ Trade with Japan. 9/ Trade with United States. 10/ Reexports deducted. 11/ Includes shipments from Hawaii and Puerto Rico. 12/ Trade with Formosa.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. All figures have been converted to count bunches of 50 pounds. The word "stem" is used to signify a bunch as harvested and varies in weight from 25 to 80 lbs. according to country where produced and by year.

BANANAS: Imports into the United States by country of origin
averages 1935-39/1945-49, annual 1948-51

Country of origin	Average		1948	1949	1950	1951 ^{1/}
	1935-39	1945-49				
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	stems	stems	stems	stems	stems	stems
Costa Rica	3,640	6,179	7,813	8,762	8,266	7,320
Guatemala	7,967	9,381	10,751	6,296	4,914	3,364
Honduras	10,710	12,373	13,857	12,250	12,036	12,643
Mexico	14,815	6,547	5,855	5,557	4,667	3,652
Nicaragua	2,272	436	664	744	658	583
Panama, Rep. of .. ^{2/}	6,740	4,031	5,572	6,015	5,207	5,800
Panama Canal Zone	^{3/}	917	1,166	799	572	256
Cuba	5,894	3,162	2,819	1,572	647	259
Dominican Republic	277	1,223	1,322	1,482	1,509	1,192
Haiti	1,193	4,498	2,735	1,959	1,715	1,045
Colombia	3,614	2,806	3,690	5,022	4,473	4,808
Ecuador	1,159	1,790	2,747	4,028	6,372	7,998
Others	975	452	343	174	172	285
Total stems	59,256	53,795	59,334	54,660	51,208	49,205
Imports adjusted to count bunches of 50 pounds						
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bunches	bunches	bunches	bunches	bunches	bunches
Costa Rica	4,004	8,991	12,501	14,019	13,226	11,712
Guatemala	7,967	9,381	10,751	6,296	4,914	3,364
Honduras	10,710	12,373	13,857	12,250	12,036	12,643
Mexico	14,537	4,798	4,684	4,446	3,734	2,922
Nicaragua	2,046	305	465	521	461	408
Panama, Rep. of .. ^{2/}	9,435	6,107	8,915	9,624	8,331	9,280
Panama Canal Zone	^{3/}	1,363	1,866	1,278	915	410
Cuba	5,894	1,550	1,410	629	259	104
Dominican Republic	246	1,175	1,322	1,482	1,660	1,192
Haiti	716	2,699	1,641	1,175	1,029	627
Colombia	3,500	2,338	2,952	4,018	4,473	4,808
Ecuador	1,275	1,969	3,022	4,431	7,009	8,798
Others	997	457	338	713	140	320
Total bunches ...	61,327	53,506	63,724	60,882	58,187	56,588

^{1/} Preliminary. ^{2/} Includes the Canal Zone. ^{3/} Included in Republic of Panama.

All figures have been converted to count bunches of 50 pounds. The word "stem" is used to signify a bunch as harvested and varies in weight from 25 to 80 lbs. according to country where produced and by year.

African exporters continued to increase their banana shipments in 1951 to a record 17.9 million bunches, compared with 15.5 million in 1950 and an average of 12.5 million during 1935-39. Only the 4 smallest exporters in this area failed to increase shipments over the previous year 1950.

The United States continued to be the principal importer of bananas although the volume totaling 56.6 million bunches declined in 1951 from the level of the past 3 years and the prewar level. Imports into Canada, totaling 3.6 million bunches, increased slightly over 1950 and greatly exceeded the 1935-39 average of 2.2 million bunches.

An analysis of the imports into the United States for 1951 shows further decreases from most of the major sources of supply. Honduras, Republic of Panama, Colombia and Ecuador show increases over 1950. Costa Rica and Dominican Republic, although below shipments of 1950, have definitely improved their supplier position, while Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua and Cuba have seriously lost ground. Of the total exports from the Western Hemisphere, the United States took more than 70 percent in 1951, compared with 67 percent in prewar years.

Imports into Europe increased to 30.3 million bunches in 1951 compared with 28.5 million in 1950 and the prewar 1935-39 average of 33.0 million bunches. The increase of 1951 over 1950 occurred in all countries except Ireland, Germany and Spain.

The total import for South America in 1951 was 6.7 million bunches compared with 5.9 million in 1950 and an average 8.0 million for 1935-39. Imports into Argentina and Chile increased in 1951 from 1950 but continued below the levels of prewar 1935-39, while those of Uruguay were less than 44 percent of 1950 although above the 1935-39 average.

Imports into Asia, Africa and Oceania continued to be relatively small since Japan has failed to recover to prewar import levels. --By Gustave Burmeister and Ruth G. Tucker based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

FATS AND OILS**WESTERN EUROPEAN COPRA, COCONUT OIL
IMPORTS UP SHARPLY IN 1951**

Net imports of copra and coconut oil into Western Europe in 1951 amounted to 988,012 and 126,967 metric tons, respectively, representing sharp increases from the 640,913 and 77,057 tonnages imported in 1950. In terms of oil equivalent, the combined net importation of both commodities in 1951 totaled 749,415 tons, an increase of 56 percent from the preceding year. With concern over the growing international tension, many of the fat-deficit countries of Western Europe turned to copra early in 1951 in an effort to increase their inventories. In addition, the greatly reduced availabilities of peanuts in both French and British West Africa also were reflected in heavier imports of copra and coconut oil.

Of the major copra producing countries of the world, Indonesia was the principal source of supply in 1951, providing Western Europe with 415,788 tons. Of this quantity, the Netherlands took more than half. Copra imports from the Philippines of 258,656 tons in 1951 were more than 3 times the volume imported from that country in 1950, while imports from Malaya decreased by almost 30 percent. Although copra imports from Ceylon were relatively unimportant, Ceylon, as in 1950, was the principal source of coconut oil with 73,513 tons or 58 percent of the total net volume imported.

All of the countries of Western Europe, with the exception of Switzerland, increased their copra imports in 1951. The major net importers were the Netherlands, mainly from Indonesia, the United Kingdom, Western Germany, and France. Both the United Kingdom and France annually obtain large quantities of copra from their Pacific possessions; however, in 1951 both countries purchased substantial quantities from Indonesia.

Western Germany was by far the largest net importer of coconut oil, taking 90,798 tons in 1951, followed by the United Kingdom with 48,971 tons. Other countries importing sizable quantities were Italy, France, and Sweden. The Netherlands, a net exporter of coconut oil, supplied Western Germany with 43,908 tons in 1951. Belgium and Denmark also were net exporters of coconut oil in 1951.

Some copra and coconut oil has entered inter-Western European trade channels in the last 2 years. Re-exports of copra were relatively insignificant in 1950 but amounted to about 28,000 tons in 1951, mainly from the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. Although exports of coconut oil to Western Germany from the Netherlands made up the bulk of the internal trade in 1951, smaller sales to France, Austria, and Sweden increased the total exportation to 82,733 tons, or 3 times that of 1950.

COPRA: Imports into Western Europe
by country of origin, 1950 and 1951 1/

(Metric tons)

Country	Year	Country of origin					Re- exports	Net imports
		Philippines	Indonesia	Malaya	Ceylon	Other		
Austria	1950:	1,914	-	6,762	-	2/ 314	-	8,990
	1951:	193	-	-	-	2/ 18,117	-	18,310
Belgium	1950:	23,375	-	-	-	251	10	23,616
	1951:	77,209	1	-	-	369	-	77,579
Denmark 3/	1950:	-	2,624	23,600	300	19,057	-	45,580
	1951:	15,440	13,108	22,035	2,440	12,648	-	65,671
France	1950:	1,184	-	5,023	602	44,894	7	51,690
	1951:	15,364	25,264	2,674	597	61,839	-	105,736
Western Germany:	1950:	783	38,803	22,100	-	9,010	-	70,701
	1951:	22,546	75,792	11,725	55	5,440	-	115,558
Ireland	1950:	-	-	-	-	-	-	4/ 6,660
	1951:	-	-	-	-	-	-	4/ 8,464
Italy	1950:	6,600	285	3,013	406	5,724	-	16,028
	1951:	19,191	-	8,303	-	5,231	-	32,725
Netherlands ...	1950:	3,599	156,015	1,055	-	20,138	-	180,807
	1951:	49,573	230,997	1,775	-	3,148	11,366	274,527
Norway	1950:	8,546	7,007	8,153	-	5,332	-	28,638
	1951:	14,819	-	504	-	15,528	-	30,911
Portugal	1950:	-	-	-	-	2,622	-	2,622
	1951:	-	-	-	-	-	-	4/ 6,266
Spain	1950:	-	-	-	-	7,272	-	7,272
	1951:	96	-	-	-	8,670	-	8,766
Sweden	1950:	3,860	5,014	20,332	-	11,459	-	40,665
	1951:	17,950	9,593	7,796	14	15,197	-	50,550
Switzerland....	1950:	35,314	2,032	-	-	4,839	-	42,235
	1951:	25,875	1,968	-	-	-	-	27,843
United Kingdom:	1950:	-	13,326	13,287	-	37,977 5/	95	115,195
	1951:	-	59,065	18,493	-	104,604 5/	17,058	165,104
Total	1950:	84,980	225,166	104,025	1,308	219,939	112	640,913
	1951:	258,656	415,788	73,365	3,106	250,791	28,424	960,012

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Includes imports from the United Kingdom of 95 and 17,058 tons in 1950 and 1951, respectively. 3/ Country breakdown for 1950 estimated on the basis of exports to Denmark. 4/ Breakdown by country of origin not available. 5/ Exports not separately classified. Represents quantities imported into Austria from the United Kingdom.

Compiled from official sources.

United States Department of Agriculture, Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations,
Fats and Oils Division.

COCONUT OIL: Imports into Western Europe
by country of origin, 1950 and 1951 ^{1/}

(Metric tons)

Country	Year	Country of origin					Exports 2/	Net imports
		Philippines	Indonesia	Malaya	Ceylon	Other		
Austria.....	1950:	-	-	-	-	287	- 3/	287
	1951:	-	-	-	-	1,670	- 3/	1,670
Belgium.....	1950:	372	-	449	1,678	442	2,050	891
	1951:	5,255	-	1,203	1,635	443	15,367	-6,831
Denmark.....	1950:	-	-	-	-	-	1,390	-1,390
	1951:	-	-	-	-	-	4,175	-4,175
France	1950:	-	-	511	-	2,737	889 3/	2,359
	1951:	666	-	483	4,531	11,987	3,285 3/	14,382
Western Germany	1950:	463	426	7,302	16,930	22,185	6	47,300
	1951:	7,231	-	11,453	19,107	53,265	258	90,798
Ireland.....	1950:	-	-	-	-	-	- 4/	635
	1951:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy.....	1950:	1,500	-	6,001	7,635	7,101	53	22,184
	1951:	-	-	3,448	11,067	3,554	-	18,069
Netherlands.....	1950:	20	295	1,341	1,693	608	20,838	-16,881
	1951:	33	251	364	2,160	252	54,550	-51,490
Norway.....	1950:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1951:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portugal.....	1950:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1951:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spain.....	1950:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1951:	-	-	-	-	2,892	- 3/	2,892
Sweden.....	1950:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1951:	-	314	4,137	5,685	1,882	3,768	8,250
Switzerland	1950:	703	-	-	-	3,787	- 5/	4,490
	1951:	1,005	-	-	211	3,215	- 5/	4,431
United Kingdom	1950:	-	-	-	-	2:17,664	6/ 484	17,182
	1951:	-	-	-	-	29,117	21,184 6/1,330	48,971
Total.....	1950:	3,058	721	15,604	27,938	54,811	25,710	77,057
	1951:	14,190	565	21,088	73,513	100,344	82,733	126,967

^{1/} Preliminary. ^{2/} Mainly to other Western European countries. ^{3/} May include palm or palm kernel oil. ^{4/} Breakdown by country of origin not available. ^{5/} Estimated. ^{6/} Exports not separately classified. Represents quantities imported into Western European countries from the United Kingdom.

Compiled from official sources.

United States Department of Agriculture, Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, Fats and Oils Division.

IRAN FORECASTS INCREASE
IN OILSEED OUTPUT

Production of oilseed crops in Iran in 1952 is forecast at from 5 to 10 percent higher than the 1951 total output of about 105,400 short tons, reports H.V. Gelb, Agricultural Attache, Iran. The 1952 cotton acreage is expected to be considerably greater than in 1951, and this should result in a greater quantity of cottonseed available for crushing. In 1951 commercial cottonseed production of 59,500 tons made up approximately 56 percent of all oilseeds produced. Oil-bearing materials other than cottonseed produced in Iran in 1951 were olives-11,000 tons, poppy seeds-11,000, sesame seed-10,600, castor beans-8,300, flaxseed-2,300 (82,670 bushels), and other seeds-2,700 tons.

Total production of vegetable oils in 1951 amounted to an estimated 11,500 tons, or 400 tons less than in 1950. Output of the principal oils in 1951 were as follows: cottonseed oil-4,410 tons; castor oil-3,200; sesame oil-1,210; olive oil-940; poppy seed oil-930; and linseed oil-600 tons.

Official customs statistics of Iran show that during the 12-month period November 22, 1950, to November 21, 1951, exports of oilseeds and oily fruits amounted to 23,506 tons, or nearly 3 times as much as the 8,242 tons exported the previous comparable period. Of the 1951 exports, Germany took the most with 7,477 tons. Other major destinations were Italy, the Netherlands, Pakistan and Japan.

Practically all the vegetable oil produced in Iran is consumed within the country. During most years a small quantity is imported and in 1950-51 (March-February) imports amounted to 1,626 tons. It is still too early to forecast importation during the current year, but since efforts are being made to curtail all imports, a decrease from the past 2 years may result. Consumption of vegetable oils has been increasing--from 11,000 tons in 1948-49, to 12,100 tons in 1949-50, and 12,700 tons in 1950-51.

Present stocks of all oilseeds, as of mid-June, were estimated at around 1,000 tons. Exporters assert that none of this is available for export. As of June 10, stocks of vegetable oils (including amounts imported) were down to about 2,000 tons.

The wholesale prices of various oilseeds on the Tehran market, as of mid-April, were as follows: poppy seed-5.90 rials per kilogram (U.S. \$74 per short ton); castor beans-9.60 (\$121); sesame seed-10.50 (\$132); and flaxseed-8.10 rials (\$2.86 per bushel). Export prices f.o.b. Khorramshahr are about 1 rial per kilogram (\$12.60 per short ton) above Tehran wholesale prices.

A new margarine plant and oil pressing mill has been built in Tehran. It is claimed that the plant will utilize the oils from around 33,000 tons of oilseeds per year. This should further encourage production of oilseeds, and will probably tend to reduce oilseed exports. A start is being made at growing soybeans, and it is believed that production will increase rapidly. Imports of vegetable oils probably will be reduced, as will imports of margarine--1,356 tons in 1951--most of which could probably be supplied by the new mill.

FRENCH WEST AFRICA'S VEGETABLE OILSEEDS
AND OILS OUTLOOK NOT ENCOURAGING

The outlook for vegetable oilseeds and oils in French West Africa is not encouraging based on present marketing conditions, reports R. M. Sheehan, American Consulate General, Dakar. The problems are similar to those affecting other agricultural items in the Federation, namely, high production costs and resultant higher selling prices in the French market in comparison with those of other sources of supply.

Despite the comparatively high prices quoted for French West African peanuts in France, the African producer is not satisfied with local trading conditions for peanuts and, consequently, future production may be jeopardized. It is too early to predict the effect of this dissatisfaction on plantings for the 1952-53 peanut crop, which were to have begun at the end of June. However, it is believed in some circles that many producers may neglect peanuts for other food crops. Another deterrent is the matter of credits to "carry" peanut growers until the next harvest. The sources of financial help are either limited in funds for such purposes or unwilling to risk a repetition of the unfortunate experiences of the past year.

The underlying difficulty in Senegal with regard to peanuts is that the soil is depleted by continued cultivation without soil conservation or crop rotation. Therefore, the estimated present maximum production is about 640,000 short tons of peanuts, whereas 15 years ago the average annual harvest exceeded 825,000 tons. The only remedy, it appears, is the added use of fertilizers or the developments of new areas. In connection with the latter, it is hoped that an additional 250,000 acres will be in production in various areas in lower Senegal in 1955, notably the C.G.O.T. (Compagnie Generale des Oleagineux Tropicaux), project at Casamance (185,000 acres).

The position as regards other vegetable oils, primarily palm oils, is as bad, if not worse, than peanut oil, in view of the present falling market for this oil. Although the potential supply of palm oil is adequate to assure domestic needs and a large exportable surplus, lower prices will reduce output until seed production per tree is increased and harvesting placed on an organized basis. It will be some time before these requisites will be fulfilled. In the meantime, the output of palm kernels and palm oil will depend, to a large extent, on prices paid to producers. The possibilities of establishing stable prices for these products, both in France and in French West Africa, are now being studied.

The 1950-51 peanut season was characterized by a small harvest (total production now placed at 550,000 tons) and relatively high prices. Prices to farmers, which started at 16 CFA francs per kilogram (\$83 per short ton) at the opening of the season jumped to 30 francs (\$156) in some instances by the end of January 1951. The average price for the crop was 24 francs (\$124).

While it was considered that the 1950-51 season was satisfactory from the standpoint of price, the 1951-52 season (about 640,000 tons unshelled commercialized) was disappointing in this regard. Prices in producing

regions opened as low as 14-16 CFA francs per kilogram unshelled (\$73-\$83 per short ton) and never exceeded 20 francs (\$104). The average for the season was 18.50 francs (\$96). These low prices resulted in unforeseen financial difficulties especially in Senegal, not only for farmers but for many middlemen and trading companies as well. The total 1951-52 peanut crop was placed at 858,700 tons. This season's crop, however, was slow entering trade channels, owing to the low offers quoted in December, January and early February--13 to 16 CFA francs (\$67-\$33).

On February 17, the French Government, realizing that the prices for the 1951-52 crop were too low, offered exporters a guaranteed price of Metropolitan francs 97 per kilogram (\$251 per short ton) c.i.f. French ports (the price quoted on the open market as of that date) for the un-exported shelled peanut tonnage on hand as of November 1, 1952. As a result of this action, prices to producers finally reached 18.50 francs (\$96). However, the open market c.i.f. price for small lots of shelled peanuts as of May 15, 1952, had dropped to Metropolitan francs 91 (\$236) and it is possible that stocks on hand will be considerable by November 1, resulting in a heavy expenditure by the French Government.

Local crushers expect to process between 237,000-248,000 tons of unshelled peanuts during 1952 (10,000 to 23,000 more than in 1951) with a minimum crude oil output of 77,000 tons.

Exports of peanuts during 1951 amounted to 209,565 tons (183,781 tons shelled and 25,784 unshelled) against 222,165 tons (220,824 shelled and 1,341 unshelled) in 1950. Metropolitan France accounted for 88 percent of the total tonnage. Exports of peanut oil during 1951 were made up of 51,019 tons of crude and 7,897 tons of refined oil with France the destination of 75 percent of the total tonnage.

Palm kernel production in 1951 was estimated at 93,695 tons, about the same as 1950. Prices to producers varied between 12 and 32 CFA francs per kilogram (\$62 and \$166 per short ton) or somewhat lower than in 1950. Efforts are being made in Dahomey to increase the per acre yield of palm groves, and 496,000 seedlings, similar to the East Indian palms, were planted in 1951. It is still considered that these higher yielding varieties will result in increased output and a larger export surplus, provided that foreign demand and consequently prices will warrant the expense involved (chiefly labor) to obtain a maximum harvest.

Exports of palm kernels in 1951 totaled 82,951 tons compared with 93,096 in 1950. Destinations changed considerably from that of the previous year. Shipments to Germany and the Netherlands decreased sharply and France absorbed a greater portion than in 1950.

Palm oil production of about 90,000 tons was approximately the same as in 1950. The extraction of oil is still largely in the hands of natives, but the high acidity oil derived from primitive methods is gradually being replaced by the high grade output of the 7 refineries constructed by the I.R.H.O.--the research organization for oleaginous products.

Prices to producers during the year varied between 30 and 53 CFA francs per kilogram (\$156 and \$275 per short ton) or about 20 percent higher than in 1950.

Palm oil exports amounted to 16,004 tons in 1951 compared with 12,345 in 1950. France took 65 percent of the total.

Other oil-bearing materials produced in French West Africa--all in a wild state--are castor beans, sesame, soybeans, shea nuts, copra and various unclassified seeds. Of this group, shea nuts are the most important with an estimated annual production of over 100,000 tons. Total exports of this group of oils and seeds, however, account for less than 2 percent of the Federation's yearly total.

NETHERLANDS DEPENDENT ON IMPORTS FOR FATS AND OILS SUPPLY

Consumption of edible and inedible fats and oils in the Netherlands in 1951 amounted to approximately 272,000 metric tons, of which only about 57,000 tons or 21 percent came from domestic production, reports R. A. Brand, Agricultural Economic Officer, American Embassy, the Hague. The Netherlands, therefore, depended on foreign sources for the greater part of its needs.

During 1951, Dutch net imports of oil and oil-bearing materials, expressed in terms of oil and fat content, totaled 229,050 tons, of which 193,893 tons were classified as edible and 35,157 tons as inedible. Although data on stocks of both oilseeds and oils were unavailable, calculations indicate that due to heavy buying after the outbreak of the Korean war, stocks of oil at the end of 1951 were much higher than a year previous, perhaps by as much as 65,000 tons. Trade sources confirm that stocks are "75 percent higher" than at the end of 1950 and state that most of the increase has been in poorer grades of originally edible oils which will now be used for inedible consumption.

In spite of the sharp increase in population, 1951 butter consumption was only about 25,000 tons of butter fat compared to 41,000 tons prewar. Better postwar markets have caused a shift in domestic consumption from butter to margarine, thus permitting larger exports of the higher priced butter. Margarine is by far the most important source of fat in the Dutch diet, amounting to 70 percent of the total consumption of edible fats.

Imports of peanuts into the Netherlands in 1951, both shelled (5,153 tons) and unshelled (6,595), dropped sharply compared with 1950 and prewar. On the other hand, Dutch imports of copra (285,895) were much larger in 1951 than in preceding years. Also larger were imports of palm kernels (43,753), soybeans (81,428), and colza and rapeseed (4,841). Imports of flaxseed for crushing (33,666) dropped to about half that of 1950, largely because of sharply reduced arrivals from Argentina. Netherlands exports of oilseeds in 1951 were not large and generally differed little from 1950 figures. A new development was the re-export of 11,366 tons of copra, most of which went to West Germany and Austria.

Netherlands imports of fats and oils as such dropped slightly during 1951 to a total of 162,614 tons. Total imports of pure lard (3,185 tons), and fish oils (4,001), both mainly from the United States, were smaller than in 1950, although purchases of lard from the United States rose to 2,974 tons in 1951 from 644 tons in 1950. Other decreases from 1950 importations occurred in sunflower seed oil (4,256), soybean oil (5,579), palm oil (59,222) and coconut oil (3,060). Dutch purchases of whale oil (48,820), peanut oil (7,232), colza and rapeseed oil (1,018), and raw linseed oil (22,707) rose in varying degrees.

The Netherlands increased its exports of pure lard (9,235 tons), whale oil (7,924), corn oil (2,039), colza and rapeseed oil (3,477), soybean oil (1,926), and coconut oil (54,550 tons) in 1951. West Germany was the principal buyer of lard, whale, and coconut oils. During 1951 the Dutch also found new markets for coconut oil, including Yugoslavia, Finland, France and Hungary.

The only fats and oils which the Netherlands produces independently in substantial quantities are whale oil, rapeseed and colza oil, linseed oil, butter and lard. In 1952, domestic production will probably be slightly below the 1951 total output of about 112,000 tons, fat content. The quantity of whale oil for use during 1952 is slightly more than the 1951 volume of 17,500 tons, but the area planted to colza and rapeseed, less than half that of 1951, should result in a similar decrease in the outturn of rapeseed oil from the 9,100 tons produced last year. Production of raw lard probably will be below the 1951 output of 16,250 tons because of a decrease in hog slaughters, while that of butter--83,500 tons--will not show any significant change. Linseed oil production in 1951 from domestic seed amounted to only about 540 tons. Dutch imports of fats and oils and oil-bearing materials during 1952 will depend to a large extent on the general marketing situation. The Netherlands undoubtedly will be a somewhat independent buyer of these commodities, since if necessary, it can depend on present stocks for a large part of its needs.

(Continued on Page 22)

TOBACCO

NORWAY'S TOBACCO CONSUMPTION SLIGHTLY HIGHER; IMPORTS LOWER

Norway's 1951 manufactured tobacco consumption is estimated at slightly above 1950, according to E. Jensen, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Oslo. Imports of unmanufactured tobacco during 1951 were 2 percent above 1950.

The country's 1951 consumption of manufactured tobacco products is estimated at 10.4 million pounds as compared with 10.3 in 1950. Of the total 1951 consumption, smoking tobacco constituted 5.4 million pounds, or 51 percent; cigarettes, 3.0 million pounds, or 29 percent; snuff, 1.2 million, or 12 percent; chewing tobacco, 0.7 million or 7 percent; and cigars and cigarillos, 0.1 million pounds, or less than 1 percent. The 1951 consumption showed an increase in smoking tobacco, which was partially offset by minor decreases in cigarette, snuff, chewing tobacco, and cigars and cigarillos, when compared with 1950 consumption.

Imports of leaf tobacco during 1951 totaled 8.4 million pounds as compared with 8.2 million pounds in 1950. The United States, the most important 1951 leaf source, supplied 7.0 million pounds, or 85 percent of total imports. Of Norway's total, United States leaf imports of flue-cured leaf accounted for 4.0 million pounds. Southern Rhodesia ranked second, with 0.9 million pounds; Indonesia, third, with 39,683 pounds. The remaining 0.4 million pounds were supplied by "all other" foreign countries. In addition to leaf, Norway imported 184,525 pounds of smoking tobacco and 27,117 pounds of cigars.

Total Norwegian unmanufactured tobacco imports during 1952 are expected to be the same or slightly above 1951. Imports of United States leaf during 1952 may be about the same level as 1951, provided prices remain relatively steady.

SWEDEN'S TOBACCO IMPORTS AND STOCKS HIGHER

Sweden's 1951 tobacco imports were 38 percent above 1950, according to G. Frostenson, American Embassy, Stockholm. Leaf stocks on December 31, 1951 were reported about 30 percent above stocks on January 1, 1951.

The country's 1951 leaf imports totaled 26.1 million pounds as compared with only 18.9 million pounds in 1950. The United States, the most important 1951 leaf source, supplied 19.1 million pounds. India ranked second, with 1.8 million pounds; Southern Rhodesia, third, with 1.6 million; Greece, fourth, 1.4 million; Cuba, fifth, 798,065 million; and Brazil, sixth, with 709,881 million pounds. According to reports from the American Embassy in Stockholm, imports of United States tobacco during 1952 may be substantially reduced as compared with other postwar years.

Sweden's leaf stocks, as of December 31, 1951, are unofficially estimated at about 36.0 million pounds as compared with about 28.0 million pounds on January 1, 1951.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

BRAZIL'S MILK PRODUCTION RECOVERING FROM DROUGHT; 1/ NEW FOOD INSPECTION LAW NOT YET PUBLISHED

Abundant rainfall, fairly general throughout the important dairy zones of Brazil has resulted in a widespread, though belated, revival of milk production and in a recovery of butter and cheese supplies to about normal for the coming dry winter season (July-November), according to H. K. Ferguson of the American Embassy at Rio de Janeiro.

1/ A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agricultural Circular available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

Production in the first 6 months of 1952 is expected to show considerable increase over that for the corresponding period a year earlier when severe drought, especially in the Northeast, reduced dairy herds and cut milk production sharply. Drought in the important dairy areas of Central and Southern Brazil also occurred late in 1951 and the recovery in pastures and milk production did not begin until January, about 2 months later than usual. There was no seasonal decline in prices of butter and cheese during the past summer (December-May) and the recovery in end-of-season stocks to about normal was partly the result of reduced consumption rates. Brazil's dairy production has failed to keep pace with population growth, however, and the Government contemplates importing nearly 4.5 million pounds of European butter to ease an anticipated shortage during the last half of 1952. Less than 1.5 million pounds were imported in 1951, most of it from the Netherlands and Denmark.

A new Federal Food Inspection law, originally scheduled to go into effect July 11, has not yet been approved by the Minister of Agriculture nor the President of Brazil. An original draft of the law, published about a year ago, would have given the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture broad powers of inspection over virtually every phase of the production and trade (including international) in all food products of animal origin. The original draft included regulations applicable to dairy products, egg and poultry products, meats, fish and honey and virtually every derivative and by-product. It is understood that the American Embassy in Rio de Janeiro will endeavor to obtain the regulations necessary for compliance with the new law as soon as it goes into effect, and will attempt to work out, with the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture, a satisfactory procedure for meeting all requirements with respect to the importation of United States products. A special announcement will be made as soon as possible after the law is published.

Due mainly to Brazil's increasing backlog of unpaid dollar drafts, the only dairy and poultry products now being imported to Brazil from the United States are: (1) milk in emulsion or powder, for infant feeding (principally milk-base dietetics and dry whole milk of less than 26 percent fat), and (2) hatching eggs and high-quality baby chicks. These items are considered of prime necessity and are not subject to the requirement of prior import license 1/. Due to the exchange shortage, no import licenses have been issued for any other dairy products from the United States since September, 1951. Imports of dried milk products from Denmark and the Netherlands have exceeded those from the United States in recent months. Of imports of powdered milk in 1951, estimated at slightly less than ten million pounds, slightly less than half were shipped from the United States, a little over 30 percent from Denmark and most of the balance from the Netherlands. Prices for dry whole milk from the latter countries are somewhat less than those for dry whole milk from the United States and one brand of Netherlands' milk reportedly is underselling the local products.

1/ They are subject to the regulations governing exchange quota certificates, however, and to frequent remittance delays involved in securing payments on dollar drafts.

AUSTRALIAN LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

The Australian cattle industry has had a bad year and the worst is not yet over in much of the Northern Territory, where drought-breaking rains cannot be expected until about November according to T.C.M. Robinson, Agricultural Attache, American Consulate General, Sydney. This past year's calf crop was a complete loss in much of the Territory and Gulf Country of Queensland as well as in the Kimberleys of Western Australia, and losses of breeding cows have been heavy. The absence of rail transport from the Barkly Tableland and from the Channel Country of Queensland, and the drying up of the stock routes all through the North have prevented the marketing of fat cattle. The full effect of the recent and present drought will be felt over the next 5 years, as it will take that long to restock many stations and as many bullocks are that old when marketed.

The season has been moderately good over most of the southern half of the continent and in Tasmania, and sheep have done well. Sheep and lamb slaughter are running well above 1951 levels, and mutton and lamb production during the 1952 calendar year is expected to be about 8 percent and 43 percent larger than in 1951, while beef and veal production is expected to be about 12 percent smaller and pork production 7 percent smaller.

Total meat exports are running at a level only a little over half as high as last year, with exports of cured and tinned meats holding up much better than exports of frozen meat.

Cattle and sheep prices are a bit higher than 3 months ago, but lambs and hogs are slightly lower.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

CANADIAN COTTON CONSUMPTION HITS POSTWAR LOW

Consumption of cotton in Canada in May 1952 amounted to slightly more than 23,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), the lowest monthly consumption figure since the war, according to Paul O. Nyhus, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Ottawa. This low consumption is partly due to a strike which closed 4 large Canadian spinning mills during May, but it also reflects reductions of output in other mills resulting from the continued low level of demand for cotton textiles in Canada.

During August 1951 through May 1952, the first 10 months of the 1951-52 season, consumption totaled 298,000 bales, 27 percent below the 410,000 bales consumed during the corresponding period of 1950-51. Members of the trade believe the depressed consumption will continue throughout the current season, resulting in a total consumption of about 350,000 bales, compared with the 479,000 bales consumed in 1950-51.

Demand for cotton textiles in Canada has been slack for about a year. Textile wholesalers continue to purchase on a short-run basis as opposed to the normal pattern of season or biseason purchases. Consumers have also refrained from making heavy purchases in recent months. Increased imports of lower-priced cotton textiles from the United States during the recent world-wide slump have resulted in stronger competition of imported cloth with domestic goods for the local market.

The trade generally believes that the bottom of the current slump has been reached. It is thought that inventories of textiles have largely been adjusted following the overactive buying period early in 1951. This should result in some revival of demand by textile wholesalers. The trade had stated previously that it believed a recovery in the United States textile industry would relieve the pressure of competition from imported goods. The recent increase in demand for cotton textiles in the United States may provide this relief to Canada and help to stimulate demand from the domestic mills.

CANADA: Imports of raw cotton from major countries of origin;
averages 1934-38 and 1945-49; annual 1949-50 and 1950-51;
August-April 1950-51 and 1951-52

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of origin	Year beginning August 1				August-April	
	Averages		1949-50	1950-51	1950-51	1951-52
	1934-38	1945-49				
Mexico.....	1/	79,019	125,509	61,481	61,281	16,578
United States...	278,761	294,651	302,035	444,610	349,514	266,761
Brazil.....	1/	15,968	152	273	273	0
Peru.....	1/	406	550	786	599	117
Egypt.....	7,251	1,474	75	79	79	288
India.....	1,151	3,027	1,223	435	351	102
Others.....	2/ 1,005	446	3/ 1,282	962	4/ 962	0
Total.....	288,168	394,991	430,826	508,626	413,059	283,846
1/ If any, included in "Other Countries."						
3/ 1,055 Belgium.						
2/ 396 United Kingdom.						
4/ 599 Netherlands.						

Monthly Summary of the Trade of Canada.

Imports of raw cotton during the first 9 months of 1951-52 totaled 284,000 bales, considerably less than the 413,000 bales imported in the same months of 1950-51. Thus far in the current season 267,000 bales have been imported from the United States, almost 17,000 bales from Mexico, and small quantities from Egypt, Peru, and India. During the corresponding period of 1950-51, almost 350,000 bales originated in the United States and 61,000 bales in Mexico. The drop in the price of Mexican cotton late in 1951 to a level (including the export tax) below that prevailing in the United States stimulated the purchase of Mexican cotton.

More than 12,000 bales of the 16,500 total imported this season have arrived in the first 4 months of 1952. Many of the Canadian mills, however, had covered practically all of their requirements for the season before the fall in Mexican prices, thereby limiting the quantity that otherwise might have been obtained from Mexico in 1951-52. Should the price of new-crop Mexican cotton remain below the United States level, Canada will probably make heavier purchases in Mexico in 1952-53 than in the current season.

N O T E: The table of cotton price quotations on world markets published weekly in Foreign Crops and Markets could not be included in this week's issue because of the July 4 holiday. It will be published in the July 14 issue, together with the table for that week.

OUTLOOK FOR 1952-53 COTTON PRODUCTION IN MEXICO

The present outlook for 1952-53 cotton production in Mexico is for a crop of about 1,150,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), somewhat less than the 1951-52 production of 1,368,000 bales, according to Philip D. Miner of the American Embassy staff, Mexico City. Harvested cotton area is expected to reach only 1,922,000 acres in 1952-53, compared with 2,377,000 acres in 1951-52.

The greatest reduction in acreage has been in the Matamoros region where the 1952-53 area is expected to total 566,000 acres compared with the 791,000 acres harvested in the current season. Heavy rains in the latter part of May broke the drought in this region which had prevailed for nearly a year but arrived too late to prevent a reduction in the area planted to cotton for the coming season. The rain, however, is expected to benefit the cotton farmers in the form of higher yields per acre this year.

The insect infestation, particularly of the pink bollworm, boll weevil, and cotton bollworm, in the Matamoros region (as well as other cotton-producing areas of Mexico) has been serious this spring. This is partly attributable to the postponement last fall of the final date for destruction of cotton stalks due to the lateness of the crop and relatively high prices prevailing for cotton. Control measures have been systematically carried out, but no effort has been made to completely eradicate the insects this year due to the heavy expense involved in such an undertaking. The goal set has been to hold infestation damages to a minimum with a comparatively small expenditure. Shortage of credit has had a serious effect on cotton planting in Mexico for the 1952-53 season.

Lending agencies have shown a great deal more caution this spring following some unprofitable experiences with the 1951-52 crop. This was especially true with late cotton, yields of which were very low in 1951-52. Little credit has been granted to growers whose cotton was not up by May 1, 1952. Assuming favorable weather conditions and the continuation of an effective insect control program, production of cotton in the Matamoros region is expected to amount to between 230,000 and 280,000 bales, considerably below the 345,000-bale production in this area in 1951-52.

The prospects in the Mexicali area are brighter. With ample supplies of water for irrigation, only a small acreage decrease from 417,000 in 1951-52 to about 400,000 in 1952-53 has taken place. Much of the reduction was in near marginal land. An increased demand for insecticides and fertilizers is expected to boost the yield to about 275,000 bales, 5 percent above the crop of 261,000 bales produced in 1951-52.

Other sizable reductions in acreage have occurred in the Laguna region from 329,000 acres in 1951-52 to 220,000 acres in 1952-53, in the Delicias area from 178,000 to 130,000 acres, and in the Don Martin region from 59,000 to 20,000 acres. The sole increase in acreage in 1952-53 over 1951-52 occurred in the Juarez area where 57,000 acres have been planted to cotton compared with 54,000 in 1951-52.

F A T S and O I L S--(Continued from Page 16)

EUROPEAN SEED CRUSHERS DISCUSS AMERICAN SOYBEANS AT ANNUAL CONGRESS

The International Association of Seed Crushers held its 1952 annual conference in Copenhagen from June 10-13 under the sponsorship of the Danish Seed Crushers Association. Some 350 delegates were registered and there was a large attendance at all sessions. All of the countries of Western Europe were represented except Spain, Portugal and Ireland. Non-European countries included Argentina, Uruguay, Israel and the United States (with 16 delegates). The Association agreed to accept an invitation from the Dutch seed crushers to hold its Congress in the Netherlands next year, followed by France in 1954, and Germany in 1955.

The program featured a report on the world fats and oils situation by J.C.A. Faure, London; a report on the fats and oils situation in the United States by T. D. Daniels, Minneapolis, and a report on international whaling activities by Professor Birger Bergersen, Norwegian Ambassador to Stockholm. The agenda also included a number of individual country reports on the progress and problems of seed crushing and a session on the quality of American soybeans. Among the various resolutions adopted by the Congress, one urged the shipment of seed from producing countries rather than oilcake and oil, in the interest of improving the quality of the products. Another resolution stressed the need for improving the quality of the seeds shipped in order to regain prewar standards.

Of special interest to the United States was Mr. Daniels' review of the high level of fats and oils production in this country and its production potentials, coupled with Mr. Faure's conclusion that world production had reached a point where 1952 import availabilities for Europe exceeded European import requirements by some 600,000 short tons. On the basis of his analysis there should be an increase in European stocks by more than 300,000 tons at the end of 1952--practically all of which is accounted for by the record 1951-52 olive oil crop in the Mediterranean Basin.

Also of direct concern to the United States was the assertion by a number of European crushers that the quality of many cargoes of American soybeans exported to Europe was below standard, particularly in respect to foreign material. A recheck by the Department of Agriculture of the records of inspection has not disclosed any inspection irregularities. However, because of the large stake of American soybean producers in the European market, the Department sent Paul E. Quintus, Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, to the Copenhagen meeting as an observer to learn first hand the nature of the complaints and to ascertain possible remedial action. As a first step, an arrangement was worked out whereby some cargo samples drawn at United States ports would be made available to European graders to determine first whether there was a difference in the interpretation of foreign material in Europe compared with United States standards. Conversely, samples drawn in Europe when the same vessels are discharged will be returned to the Department to determine whether comparable samples are being used as a basis of establishing the grade. A solution of the problem, or a removal of any misunderstanding, is considered especially important because of the growing competition in Western Europe from Manchurian soybeans. Western Europe purchased some 500,000 tons of Manchurian soybeans in 1951 compared with about 100,000 tons in 1950 virtually none in earlier postwar years. Purchases from the United States totaled around 150,000 tons in 1950 and 250,000 tons in 1951.

Guy Chipperfield, President, National Seed Crushers of Great Britain was re-elected President of the International Association.